

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following paragraph(s) for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification:

Provided is a process for producing a fine carbon fiber by a method of thermal decomposition of at least one organic compound containing an IUPAC-VIB group 16 element in the periodic table in a molecule using a-ultra fine particles comprising of at least one transition metal as a catalyst, wherein a gas obtained by separating ~~a-fine carbon fiber from a-gas coming out from a reaction furnace is cooled to further collect the-fine carbon fiber still present in the gas.~~ then-After cooling, at least part of the above gas is cooled again to remove condensed components contained in the reacted unwanted condensates and by-products gas, and then the above-after which the gas is recycled to the reaction furnace, water-Water and the like are then separated from the condensate to further recycle the-unreacted raw material organic compound removed during condensation.